

CLAIMS

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1. An address system comprising:  
means for monitoring information sent and  
asynchronously received to a fee address;  
means for determining a fee for the information,  
wherein the fee is based upon a preferences record defined by a  
mail recipient;  
means for collecting the fee into a first account;  
means for forwarding the information to a private  
address; and  
means for transferring the collected fees to a second  
account.

2. The address system of claim 1, wherein the second  
account belongs to a third party.

3. The address system of claim 1, wherein the address is  
an electronic mail address.

4. The address system of claim 1, wherein the fees are  
escalating based upon number of usages.

5. The address system of claim 1, wherein the fees are  
conditional.

1           6.    The address system of claim 1, wherein the fees are a  
2 combination of fixed, variable and conditional for different  
3 senders.

1           7.    The address system of claim 1 wherein the fee is  
2 waived for a sender.

1           8.    The address system of claim 1 wherein the fee is based  
2 upon the urgency of the information.

1           9.    The address system of claim 1 wherein the fees are  
2 selected from the group consisting of fixed, variable or  
3 conditional.

1           10.   The address system of claim 1 wherein the fee is based  
2 on the size of the information.

1           11.   The address system of claim 2 wherein the third party  
2 is a charity organization.

1           12.   The address system of claim 2 wherein the third party  
2 is a company.

1           13.   The address system of claim 2 wherein the third party  
2 is an individual.

1 14. The address system of claim 2 wherein the third party  
2 is a firm.

1 15. The address system of claim 1 wherein the fee varies  
2 for different senders.

1 16. The address system of claim 10 wherein the size of the  
2 information is based on word count.

1 17. The address system of claim 10 wherein the size of the  
2 information is based on number of bits.

1 18. The address system of claim 5 wherein the mail  
2 recipient elects to impose a fee.

1 19. An address system comprising:  
2 means for monitoring information sent and  
3 asynchronously received to a fee address;  
4 means for determining a fee for the information,  
5 wherein the fee is based upon a preferences record defined by a  
6 mail recipient and the fee is conditional;  
7 means for collecting the fee; and  
8 means for forwarding the information to a private  
9 ~~address.~~

1 20. The address system of claim 19 wherein a mail  
2 recipient elects to impose a charge.

1 21. The address system of claim 19 wherein the mail  
2 recipient receives a portion of the collected fees.

1 <sup>50</sup> <sub>43</sub> > 22. A method of providing a fee address system comprising  
2 the steps of:  
3 receiving information to a fee address in a computer;  
4 determining a fee for the information, wherein the fee  
5 is based upon a preferences record defined by a mail recipient  
6 and the fee increases as information size increases;  
7 collecting the fee; and  
8 forwarding the information to a private address.

1 23. The method of claim 22 wherein the mail size is  
2 measured by word count.

1 24. The method of claim 22 wherein the mail size is  
2 measured in bits.

1 25. The method of claim 22 further comprising transferring  
2 the collected fees to a third party.

1 26. The method of claim 25 wherein the third party is a  
2 charity.

1 27. The method of claim 25 wherein the third party is a  
2 firm.

1 28. The method of claim 25 wherein the third party is an  
2 individual.

1 29. The method of claim 25 wherein the third party is a  
2 company.

1 30. The method of claim 22 wherein the information is  
2 electronic mail.

3 31. A programmed computer for providing a fee address  
4 system comprising:

5 a memory having at least one region for storing  
6 computer executable program code; and

7 a processor for executing the program code stored in  
8 memory, wherein the program code includes:

9 code to receive mail having a fee address;

10 code to determine a fee for the mail, wherein the fee  
is based upon a preferences record defined by a mail recipient;

code to collect the fee into a first account;

11 code to forward the mail to a private address; and  
12 code to transfer the collected fees to a second  
13 account.

1 32. The programmed computer of claim 31 wherein the second  
2 account belongs to a third party.

1 33. The programmed computer of claim 31, wherein the  
2 address is an electronic mail address.

1 34. The programmed computer of claim 31, wherein the fees  
2 are escalating based upon number of usages.

1 35. The programmed computer of claim 31, wherein the fees  
2 are conditional.

1 36. The programmed computer of claim 31, wherein the fees  
2 are a combination of fixed, variable and conditional for  
3 different senders.

1 37. The programmed computer of claim 31 wherein the fee is  
2 waived for a sender.

1 38. The programmed computer of claim 31 wherein the fee is  
2 based upon the urgency of the mail.

1 39. The programmed computer of claim 31 wherein the fees  
2 are selected from the group consisting of fixed, variable or  
3 conditional.

1 40. The programmed computer of claim 31 wherein the fee is  
2 based on the size of the mail.

1 41. The programmed computer of claim 32 wherein the third  
2 party is a charity organization.

1 42. The programmed computer of claim 32 wherein the third  
2 party is a company.

1 43. The programmed computer of claim 32 wherein the third  
2 party is an individual.

1 44. The programmed computer of claim 32 wherein the third  
2 party is a firm.

1 45. The programmed computer of claim 31 wherein the fee  
2 varies for different senders.

1 46. The programmed computer of claim 40 wherein the size  
2 of the mail is based on word count.

1 47. The programmed computer of claim 40 wherein the size  
2 of the mail is based on number of bits.

1 48. The programmed computer of claim 35 wherein the mail  
2 recipient elects to impose a fee.

1 ~~49. Computer executable software code stored on a computer~~  
2 ~~readable medium, the code for providing a fee address system,~~  
3 ~~comprising:~~

4 ~~code to receive a communication having a fee address;~~  
5 ~~code to determine a fee for the communication, wherein~~  
6 ~~the fee is based upon a preferences record defined by a mail~~  
7 ~~recipient;~~

8 ~~code to collect the fee; and~~  
9 ~~code to forward the communication to a private~~  
10 ~~address.~~

1 50. A method of providing a fee address system comprising  
2 the steps of:

3 receiving mail having a fee address in a computer;  
4 determining a fee for the mail, wherein the fee is  
5 based upon a preferences record defined by a mail recipient;  
6 collecting the fee into a first account;  
7 forwarding the mail to a private address; and

8                    transferring the collected fee to a second account.

1            51. The method of claim 50, wherein the second account  
2 belongs to a third party.

1            52. The method of claim 50, wherein the address is an  
2 electronic mail address.

1            53. The method of claim 50, wherein the fees are  
2 escalating based upon number of usages.

54. The method of claim 50, wherein the fees are  
conditional.

55. The method of claim 50, wherein the fees are a  
combination of fixed, variable and conditional for different  
senders.

1            56. The method of claim 50 wherein the fee is waived for a  
2 sender.

1            57. The method of claim 50 wherein the fee is based upon  
2 the urgency of the mail.

1            58. The method of claim 50 wherein the fees are selected  
2 from the group consisting of fixed, variable or conditional.

1 59. The method of claim 50 wherein the fee is based on the  
2 size of the mail.

1 60. The method of claim 51 wherein the third party is a  
2 charity organization.

1 61. The method of claim 51 wherein the third party is a  
2 company.

1 62. The method of claim 51 wherein the third party is an  
2 individual.

1 63. The method of claim 51 wherein the third party is a  
2 firm.

1 64. The method of claim 50 wherein the fee varies for  
2 different senders.

1 65. The method of claim 59 wherein the size of the mail is  
2 based on word count.

1 66. The method of claim 59 wherein the size of the mail is  
2 based on number of bits.

1 67. The method of claim 54 wherein the mail recipient  
2 elects to impose a fee.